Wake Forest University and the City of Winston-Salem welcomed the National Debate Tournament in late March for a glittering celebration of the tournament’s 50th anniversary. Nearly 500 participants and alumni enjoyed a week of competition and observances. The event was a commemoration of a half century tradition and a glimpse of debate in the electronic era.

Copied with vigorous competition was a large gathering of alumni from around the country. Highlights of the alumni gathering included several receptions, late night gatherings, a luncheon at the Radisson Marque, and watching debates. The culmination for many alumni was the Saturday evening reception and banquet keyednote by 1972 presidential candidate and President of the Middle East Policy Council, George McGovern. McGovern, spurring his prepared statement, captivated the audience with memories of his days as a debater and coach, hope for Peace in the Middle East, and a spirited defense of political liberalism, largely absent in the contemporary political scene. The Mayor of Winston-Salem, Martha Wood, former NDT debater, introduced Senator McGovern and extolled the value of debate in one’s life work. After the late night speech, McGovern chose to join alumni and coaches for a lively hotel reception that lasted well into the morning.

Senator McGovern dines with Winston-Salem Mayor Martha Wood.

The competitive side of the 50th proved to be a large evenly balanced field for the elimination rounds. Much like the '96 Wimbledon close contest and depth of talent abraded early predictions making for one of the more exciting NDTIs in recent years. Winner Emory University and runner-up University of Iowa received the enthusiastic congratulations of a large audience around midnight Monday night.

The tournament marked numerous traditions arising from the first 50 years of the NDT. The oral reading of the pairings by tournament director, Don Parson (Kansas) and former director Mike Hazen (Winston Forest), the “Big Board,” opening and closing banquets recognizing all tournament

Ending the year in style

The Deacon Debaters finished the year with style, winning three of the last four tournaments. At the District VI Southeast Championship Tournament, senior Chris Cooper (Lancaster, PA) and sophomore Dawne Gartenstein-Ross (Ashland, OR) finished in first place, followed closely by the junior-sophomore pair of Bryan Yeazel (Baltimore, MD) and Mike Matos (Evans, GA) in second.

In early March, Wake took a contingent of five first-year debaters to Novice Nationals at Northwestern University. They did not return empty-handed. Clay Rhodes (Orange, TX), competing with a woman from Iowa, reached the octafinals, and was tenth speaker out of 78 debaters. Andrew Geppert (Lawrenceville, GA) and Justin Green (Katy, TX) successfully reached the quarterfinals, losing a close 2-1 decision on the negative to Georgia. The third Wake team in attendance, Kristin Langwell (Lincolnwood, IL) and Nicole Runyan (Omaha, NE) were also successful, winning the tournament on a 3-0 decision on the negative against a strong first-year team from the University of Michigan. Kristin was also awarded fourth speaker at the tournament.

Kristin and Nicole also contributed to the team’s success at the American Debate Association’s national tournament a week later. Kristin and Nicole and Daweed and Chris won the second place “Two-Team award.” This award is given to schools with the best combined record of the top two teams entered in the tournament from those schools. Daweed and Chris went on to win the tournament, successfully beating first-round teams from Michigan in the semis, and Redlands in the finals. Chris was awarded fifth speaker, with Daweed placing ninth.

After those tournaments, the team stepped in to prep for the NDT. For the fourth time in five years, Wake Forest qualified three teams for the National Debate Tournament. The team of senior John Hughes (Whitefish, MT) and junior Brian Presses (Worcester, MA) and the team of Chris and Daweed received first award at-large bids to the NDT. The third team, Bryan and Mike, also qualified for the tournament.

All three teams advanced to the elimination rounds as well. Chris and Daweed were 13th seed, with a 5-3 record, winning a ballot in each of their losses. Bryan and Mike were 15th seed, also
Ending in style

Continued from Page 1

Racking up a 5-3 record, John and Brian were 7th seed, with a 6-2 record. Brian was awarded 11th speaker, with John placing third.

John and Brian received a bye to the quarterfinals, but they spent their time off helping to coach the other two teams. Chris and Dave were affirmative against Dartmouth's third team. In what was an extremely close debate, the Dartmouth team advanced 3-2. Meanwhile, Bryan and Mike were victorious on the affirmative against first round at-large bid Liberty University. With two teams left in the tournament, the squad stayed up late into the night updating generic arguments in anticipation of new arguments to be sprung the next morning in the octa-finals.

Bryan and Mike won their toss against second-seeded Dartmouth, and opted affirmative. In a 3-2 decision in their favor, Bryan and Mike managed to upset the Dartmouth seniors. Meanwhile, an unanticipated new affirmative was run in John and Brian's debate against Iowa. Despite not having prepared for Iowa's affirmative, John and Brian debated extremely well, with both giving outstanding rebuttals. However, it was another close decision, Wake Forest's A's hopes of winning the NDT on the home court ended in a 3-2 loss to the team from Iowa. It later became obvious that Iowa had no intention of stopping until they reached the finals, as Bryan and Mike lost to the team in 4-0.

Emory put up a stop to Iowa's rampage in the finals, beating them on a 5-0 decision in the finals. It was Emory's first NDT championship. Congratulations to Wake alumni Bill Newman and Brian Lain for a fine job of coaching the champions.

CEDA and NDT unify under one topic

By Maxwell Schnurer

 Spearheaded by Wake Forest coach Ross Smith, the two largest intercollegiate debate organizations have adopted a joint topic for the 1996-1997 season. The Cross Examination Debate Association (CEDA) has for years been NDT's largest cousin. With over 300 schools as active members, CEDA debate and NDT debate have evolved to similar policy standards. The decision to pursue a joint topic has been bandied about for several years, but with little support. Wake Forest, a member of CEDA for fifteen years, decided to mobilize the NDT community to join CEDA on their topic. Ross Smith, going into his second year of representing District V on the NDT committee, argued passionately with the NDT coaches and debaters to share a topic with CEDA. Also instrumental in the push for a shared topic was the use of the NDT-L and CEDA-L Internet listserv. The Wake Forest debate squad looks forward to being the best college debate team in America, rather than just the best NDT debate team.

Shirley scholarships help less affluent students

The Franklin R. Shirley Memorial Scholarship fund, founded in 1985, has helped dozens of Wake Forest Debate meet the costs of college. Each year the fund is able to provide $1000 scholarships to five students selected for their contributions to the program. As tuition steadily increases the availability of supplement helps often means the difference in attending or not attending Wake Forest for less affluent students.

Over the years debate alumni have contributed to the scholarship fund honoring Dr. Shirley, some making a one-time contribution, while others have directed their annual giving to the fund. Not until the last month did the debate program learn the names of those who have made the fund possible. We wanted to take this opportunity to thank all those who make it viable for students to join the Wake Forest Debate tradition. Contributors include: Charles Bartman, Jr., David Ferguson, Dr. May Jean Go, Sussie Jones, Virgil Moosfield, Clara Peeler, Kevin Quincy, Marie Shirley, Greg Smith, Wayne Telford, Tod Woodbury, Gary Kraus, Carole LeRoy, Garth Hughes LeRoy, Ross Smith, John Walker, and David Zacks. If we missed anyone let us know, as everyone's help is appreciated.

Final National Policy Debate Top Ten Varsity Rankings

1995-1996 Season

Announced April 23, 1996

1. WAKE FOREST 439
2. Dartmouth 429
3. Northwestern 397
4. Michigan 391
5. Southern California 360
6. Liberty 346
7. Iowa 342
8. Wayne State 340
9. Emory 332
10. Baylor 315

Southeastern U.S. District IV—Top Five

1. WAKE FOREST 446
2. Emory 436
3. Georgia 267
4. Methodist 244
5. West Georgia 242

Fall tournament schedule

Sept. 20-22—University of South Carolina
Sept. 21-23—University of Northern Iowa
Sept. 27-29—National Earlybird hosted by Wake Forest Debate
Oct. 4-6—Kentucky Thoroughbred Round Robin
Oct. 7-9—Henry Clay Debates at the University of Kentucky
Oct. 11-13—Richmond, VA
Oct. 12-14—University of Nevada at Las Vegas
Oct. 19-21—Tarheel Debates at the University of North Carolina
Oct. 25-27—James Madison Debates
Nov. 1-3—Appalachian State, NC
Nov. 4-6—Annual Harvard Debates, MA
Nov. 9-10—Liberty University
Nov. 16-18—Dixie Classic hosted by Wake Forest Debate
Nov. 29-Dec. 1—University of Pittsburgh
Wake Forest debate in the computer age
BY ADRIENNE BROVERO and DREW BROWN

As the Plan for the Class of 2008 users Wake Forest into the computer age, Wake Debate is becoming increasingly reliant on computers as well. Not only are computers increasingly being used for "online" research, they are also being employed to communicate with other debaters across the country.

In last year's Update, Stefan Baustard described the NDT-L, a "listserv" run out of the University of Georgia, which enables the debate community to communicate by posting email letters which are distributed to every member of the listserv. Two other listservs have further facilitated this mass communication - the CEDA-L and the CX-L. CEDA-L is operated out of Cornell, and is a frequent source of information regarding the CEDA debate community. The CX-L was set up to enable similar mass communication regarding debate at the high school level.

These listservs have had a large impact on the debate community as a whole, as is evidenced by the NDT-L this year. Discussions held on both the CEDA-L and NDT-L provided a forum for preliminary discussions and proposals to acquaint the two communities, resulting in the decision on the part of the NDT community to use the same topic.

Other frequent listserv topics include tournament results, judging philosophies, discussions about various arguments, as well as friendly bantering. There are also plenty of posts from and about alumni from the debate community. These listservs are open to the public. If you have Internet access and are interested in keeping up with the debate community, then you can subscribe as follows:

NDT-L — Send an email message to "listserv@uga.cc.uga.edu", and the text of it should read "SUBSCRIBE NDT-L first name last name".
CEDA-L — Send an email message to "listproc@cornell.edu", and the text of it should read "SUBSCRIBE CEDA-L first name last name".
CX-L — Send an email message to "listproc@basis.com", and the text of it should read "SUBSCRIBE CX-L first name last name".

The team also has its own website on the Internet. It is located at http://www.wf.edu/debate. The site contains information on the high school workshops, the Earlybird, and various other aspects of the debate program. It also contains a brief record of how we have done in recent years. Hopefully, homepage on the web should be valuable in communicating to prospective recruits, the current team, as well as alumni. The site will be a valuable tool for our squad in the future. The page is in its early stages and will be expanded in the near future.

We are definitely interested in any suggestions anyone might have. Comments or suggestions can be sent via email to Drew Brown at brownad@50whu.e.
Squad update
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Joe Gagnon (Greensboro, NC) is a sophomore at Wake Forest. Joe is featured in the recent issue of Wake Forest Magazine for his accomplishments in the field of math. Joe has never debated before, but says “I have always loved to argue over anything. This intuition with conflict and the desire to learn how to communicate more effectively lead me to debate at WFL.”

Khalid Jones (Little Rock, AR) joins us in his first year at Wake Forest. Khalid was a successful competitor in Congress, poetry, extemp, and policy debate while a student at Little Rock Central High School. Hailing from Little Rock, Khalid comes to us with connections, having been photographed shaking President Clinton’s hand.

Chris Mills (Sacramento, CA) is in his first year at Wake Forest. Chris competed in Lincoln-Douglas debate for two years while a student at Rio Americano High School. Chris narrowly competed at the state tournament during his second year, and narrowly missed going to nationals. Chris loves the outdoors and “anything extreme and adrenaline pumping.” Chris should fit right in.

Josh O’Donnell (Omaha, NB) joins us in his first year at Wake Forest. Josh debated for four years at Millard North High School. Josh joins the ever-growing list of O’Donnells at Wake Forest, following in big brother Scott’s (’95) footsteps.

Rob Shaw (Greenville, NC) joins us as a sophomore at Wake Forest.

Emily Turner (Charlottesville, VA) joins us in her junior year. Emily is a communications major and religion minor. In her free time, Emily enjoys sports, the outdoors, and playing piano.

Joseph Wallace (Greenville, SC) is in his first year w/ Wake Forest.

Joy Verrill (Black Mountain, NC) is in her junior year at Wake Forest.

Michelle Yang (Great Falls, VA) is in her first year at Wake Forest.

Novice recruiting drive
by Maxwell Schnurbur

This year at Wake Forest, we have undertaken an ambitious drive to recruit novice debaters. The recent change to a joint NDT/CEDA topic has opened up the opportunity for novice competition. For two weeks Wake debaters put up flyers calling for Wake Forest students with no debate experience to “fight with their brains.” Responding to the call, more than a dozen Wake Forest students came to join the debate team—struggling to learn how to construct arguments, flow, and defend position. The drive can only be called a success, spurring the Wake Forest squad to dominate in every level of debate.

Debate awards
(1995-96 season)

CHAMPIONSHIPS and FINAL ROUNDS
University of Kentucky — Pre-Season Novice Cramps — 1st: Kristin Langwell & Nicole Runyan
Austin (Key) University - Novice - 1st: Drew Brown & John Sera
Austin Peay University - Junior Varsity - 2nd: Rachael Avon & David Scholl
ADA Fall Championships - Novice - Drew Brown & John Sera
University of Southern California - 1st: Varsity - John Hughes & David Brown
Redlands University Round Robin - 1st: Varsity - Brian Pressey & John Hughes
Dartmouth Round Robin - 1st: Varsity - John Hughes & David Brown
George Mason University - 2nd: Varsity - Tony Segars & Drew Brown
University of Michigan - 1st: Varsity - Tom Segars & Drew Brown
Southeast Championships - 1st: Varsity - David Garrett-Ross & Chris Cooper
Southwest Championships - 1st: Varsity - Michael Matus & Bryan Yeazel
Novice Nationals (Northwestern) — 1st Place - Kristin Langwell & Nicole Runyan
American Debate Association Nationals — 1st Place - Varsity - Chris Cooper & David Garrett-Ross

DOUBLE-OCTA-FINALS
Northwestern University - Ken Rulo & Bryan Yeazel
University of Michigan - Michael Matus & Bryan Yeazel
University of Georgia - David Garrett-Ross & Chris Cooper
National Debate Tournament - Brian Pressey & John Hughes

ULT-ON-POINTS
Univ. of Northern Iowa - David Garrett-Ross & Chris Cooper
Univ. of Kentucky - Pre-Season Novice Championship - Justin Green & Andy Geppert
Northwestern University - Clay Rhodes & Michael Matus
Northern Kentucky University - Justin Green & Andy Geppert
West Georgia College - Bryan Yeazel & Ken Rulo
University of Michigan - Andy Geppert & Justin Green

Wake Forest Debate
Since 1897

Debaters
Rachel Avon, ’98 (Columbus, Ohio)
Drew Brown, ’96 (Fayetteville, Missouri)
Russell Bruch, 2000 (Trenton, New Jersey)
Eric DeRose, ’99 (North East, Pennsylvania)
Emma Fiskus, 2003 (Alexandria, Virginia)
Joe Gagnon, ’99 (Greensboro, North Carolina)
David Garrett-Ross, ’98 (Atlanta, Georgia)
Andy Geppert, ’99 (Laurenville, Georgia)
Justin Green, ’99 (Cary, Texas)
Khalid Jones, 2000 (Little Rock, Arkansas)
Kristen Langwell, ’99 (Lincolnwood, Illinois)
Michael Matus, ’98 (Taos, Georgia)
Chris Mills, 2000 (Sacramento, California)
Sean Nowak, ’99 (Erie, Pennsylvania)
Brian Pressey, ’97 (Worcester, Massachusetts)
Clay Rhodes, ’99 (Orage, Texas)
Nicole Runyan, ’99 (Omaha, Nebraska)
Tom Segars, ’97 (Wilmington, Delaware)
John Sena, ’97 (College Park, Maryland)
Rob Shaw, ’99 (Greenville, North Carolina)
Courtney Smith, ’98 (Omar, Nebraska)
Emily Turner, ’98 (Charlottesville, Virginia)
Joy Verrill, ’98 (Black Mountain, North Carolina)

Director
Allan Louden

Head Coach
Ross K. Smith

Assistant Coaches
Adrienne Brovero, ’97
Jason Jarvis, ’97
Patrick McMullen, ’97
Junyu Moork, ’98
Eric Truett, ’98

Debate UPDATE Editor
Adrienne Brovero